

Teacher #16 (5th Grade)

Having used Woot Math, what are your feelings about it?

I loved Woot Math, the kids really loved it, and it made fraction concepts easier to understand. The extra video support and examples made it so much easier for the kids to understand their errors and correct them. I used the teacher dashboard to see misconceptions - and then could address them as a whole class.

The kids appreciated being able to work at their own pace. Woot Math really really helped change what we are doing in math class. In my class the girls were silent and the boys dominated the conversation. By dividing the class by gender, half on Woot Math and half with me, the girls' conversation became so much richer than before. They weren't talking about their day, they were talking about Math! Our principal observed our class one day, and he said it was the best math lesson he had ever seen taught at our school. This would not have been possible without something like Woot Math.

The students generally didn't like to write on the iPad, they used markers on their desks instead. They would sometimes ask questions about what they were supposed to do, and when I asked them to read the question and tell me what they think - then they would just get it without me doing anything else. They went from dependent to independent learners. Woot Math certainly helped with that. I also think the immediate feedback is important, and some of them would go back and redo lessons to get 3 stars. They were so much more able to work independently by the end of the program. They started catching their own mistakes more and correcting them.

This group of kids really doesn't have access to any technology, and they really got it.

What were your feelings about it prior to using it?

I thought it would be cool. The number one request from our middle school teachers is that students get a more solid understanding of fractions.

Having used Woot Math, what are your students feelings about it?

They loved it. I asked how many liked Woot Math and it was instantly all hands in the air. And they yelled Woot! This particular group of students responds really well to personalized feedback, and Woot Math provides that so well. I like the format of the problems. It looks fun, so it was fun. They'd run to the chromebooks to get Woot Math and sit down and start working - I never had a single kid have a bad attitude about using it.

What were their feelings about it when they started?

None

How helpful do you think it was for your students?

On a scale of 1-10 I'd say it was an 8.5 as far as helpfulness to my students. Some of them are certainly a 10, a few are maybe 7. But it was certainly worth the time.

Understanding parts of the whole, manipulating fractions in different ways, working with groups, groups larger than 1.

Did you notice any changes in your students attitudes about the material or their self confidence during the program?

They felt a lot more confident after using Woot Math - they now are saying 'Oh yeah, I can do fractions'. I'd like to see more work with number line bigger than 1 - they still struggled with that on their end of year assessments.

How engaged were they by Woot Math?

The students were very engaged. They used it for 30 minutes at a time. I have one student that is 'king of the bathroom'. Everytime he has to do real work, he asks to go. However, he would sit for 30 minutes at a time using Woot Math with a smile on his face, and never ask to go use the restroom! I also had two girls, that anytime they had intervention, they would get upset and HATED missing their Woot Math time. I had to promise to make the time up to them after they got back from intervention.

What aspects did your students like best?

I liked the look-and-feel and the game component of Woot Math. I liked that whenever we did it the students attitude wasn't 'Ugh we're doing math again', but instead, 'Woohoo we're doing math again'. I liked the instant feedback.

What aspects did your students like least?

They liked the number line the least because it was challenging.

What aspects did you like best?

I liked that the concepts were challenging for kids and that they were excited about it. I loved having access to smaller groups in my class. This totally changed the way we did math.

What aspects did you like least?

I didn't like the pressure of having to get everything done. This wasn't Woot Math's fault, but the district because they took so long to get us started. I'm also not sure about the button to read the problems in Spanish - I don't know if the students got it or wanted to use it?